

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 OES-06 SP-02

SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01 PRS-01 /099 W

-----151102Z 036940 /14

R 150919Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0102

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, TH

SUBJ: RTG INCREASE POL PRICES

1. OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER ANNOUNCED EVENING MARCH 14 THAT EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED RETAIL PRICE OF POL PRODUCTS WILL BE INCREASED TO COMPENSATE FOR OPEC PRICE INCREASES IN OCTOBER 1975 (NOT PREVIOUSLY PASSED TO CONSUMER) AND IN JANUARY 1977. REFINERY PRICES ARE ALSO BEING ADJUSTED TO ACCOUNT FOR JANUARY INCREASE.

2. INCREASES ARE PROGRESSIVE IN NATURE, WITH A LOW OF 10.6 PERCENT FOR DIESEL FUEL USED BY TRUCKS AND BUSES AND 16 PERCENT FOR PREMIUM GASOLINE USED BY PRIVATE AUTOS. BLACK OIL INCREASES ARE IN RANGE OF 11-12 PERCENT. SEEMS CLEAR GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING TO SHED BURDEN OF ABOUT \$5 MILLION MONTHLY IT HAS PAID AS SUBSIDY TO OIL MARKETING COMPANIES SINCE IT RAISED EX-REFINERY PRICES EARLY IN 1976 (IN ORDER AVOID RAISING PUMP PRICES), WHILE AT SAME TIME MINIMIZING ADVERSE PUBLIC REACTION WHICH MIGHT STEM FROM MAJOR INCREASE IN BUS FARES AND ELECTRICITY PRICES.

3. SEVEN AND ONE-HALF PERCENT INCREASE GRANTED REFINERIES WILL COVER ADDED COSTS ACCRUING TO SUMMITT AND ESSO COMPANIES AS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESULT JANUARY OPEC INCREASE. HOWEVER, TORC REFINERY OBTAINS CRUDE IN QATAR (SUMMITT AND ESSO BUY FROM SAUDIA ARABIA AND UAE) WITH RESULT THAT TORC REPORTEDLY FACES SERIOUS GAP BETWEEN LANDED POL PRICE, WHICH IS REPORTEDLY UP 11 1/2 PERCENT, AND 7 1/2 PERCENT INCREASE RTG HAS AUTHORIZED REFINERIES TO PASS ALONG TO MARKETING COMPANIES. TORC HAS REPORTEDLY ASKED RTG TO ADJUST ITS EX-REFINERY PRICES UPWARD TO COMPENSATE FOR GAP. PUBLIC

HAS ACCEPTED INCREASES CALMLY.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7d3a7bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3111909
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RTG INCREASE POL PRICES
TAGS: ENRG, TH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7d3a7bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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